

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 732

By Henry

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend William Dale Barnes for his honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, William Dale Barnes is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, throughout his many years of legislative service, Dale Barnes distinguished himself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the Tennessee General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, Dale Barnes began his illustrious career with the Tennessee General Assembly on November 26, 1973, and over the next thirty-five years, he served with distinction as a Legislative Aide, Administrative Analyst, and Supervisor of Legislative Property in the Office of Legislative Administration; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure as a legislative employee, Mr. Barnes' voluminous duties included maintaining 220 sets of the Tennessee Code Annotated, thousands of items of property, dozens of telephone systems, scores of copiers and fax machines, and a voice mail system; and

WHEREAS, Dale Barnes exhibited his keen attention to detail as he coordinated the installation of telecommunications for the visit of President Jimmy Carter to the War Memorial Plaza and the visit of President Ronald Reagan to the State Capitol; and

WHEREAS, respected by his peers and the members of the General Assembly, Mr. Barnes served for many years as the departmental liaison for the State Employees Charity Fund

Campaign and the United Way, which earned him a ride on the Goodyear Blimp, and once was tasked with the job of retrieving a legislator's stolen car from the police; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Barnes was deeply honored to serve as Chaplain of the Day for the Tennessee State Senate and has been named a Tennessee Colonel, an Alabama Colonel, a Kentucky Colonel, an Admiral in the Great Navy of the State of Nebraska, a Tennessee Squire by the Jack Daniels Distillery, and an Honorary Member of the Tennessee Black Caucus; and

WHEREAS, throughout his career, Dale Barnes was an exemplary legislative employee who treated every legislator, fellow employee, state official, state employee, intern, vendor, and tourist with respect and kindness, always going above and beyond to resolve any problem or request; and

WHEREAS, a native son of the Volunteer State, William Dale Barnes was born at 303 Wall Street in Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee, in Maury County to Mary Sue Wright Barnes and Clayton Dale Barnes and later moved to Columbia, Tennessee, where he attended Riverside Elementary School, Whitthorne Junior High School, and Columbia Central High School; and

WHEREAS, growing up in the Riverside neighborhood of Columbia near the Duck River, young Dale soon learned it was a common occurrence during flood season to be awakened by the Tennessee National Guard and moved to safety as the family home was evacuated; and

WHEREAS, a graduate of Columbia State Community College, Mr. Barnes is also a graduate of the University of Tennessee at Nashville with majors in Zoology and Education and minors in Botany and Psychology; and

WHEREAS, a lay leader and lay minister who has headed food bank collections and served as chair of the finance committee, Dale Barnes is a devoted member of Long Hollow Baptist Church in Hendersonville, where he serves on the Extreme Team, which hosts the homeless through the Room In The Inn program; and

WHEREAS, proud of being a Tennessean, Dale Barnes loves the great state of Tennessee, from the Mississippi River delta through the plains of West Tennessee to the rolling hills of Middle Tennessee and the scenic vistas of the Great Smoky Mountains of East Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, William Dale Barnes epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated professional who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service, and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend William Dale Barnes for his many years of distinguished service to the Tennessee General Assembly and the citizens of Tennessee, extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement, and wish him every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.